

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 10, ~~for providing an audio broadcast for a time division multiple access system with a base part and a plurality of portable parts, comprising:~~

~~broadcasting an audio message from a base part during a single time slot of a time division;~~

~~receiving the audio message at the plurality of portable parts; and~~

~~converting the audio message into sound by the plurality of portable parts, which form part of the time division multiple access system. wherein the base part and the plurality of portable parts form a time division multiple access cordless telephone system.~~

Claims 2 – 9 canceled.

10. (currently amended) A method for providing an audio broadcast for a time division multiple access system with a base part and a plurality of portable parts, comprising:

broadcasting an audio message from the base part during a single time slot of a time division;

receiving the audio message at the plurality of portable parts at least one of which is a hands free unit;

automatically converting the audio message into sound by the plurality of portable parts;

generating an audio broadcast command at the base part by designating the single time slot;

placing the plurality of portable parts in a receive only mode by synchronizing the plurality of portable parts to the a single time slot and turning on only speakers without turning on microphones of the plurality of portable parts;

transmitting the audio broadcast command from the base part to the plurality of portable parts;

transmitting a broadcast origination signal from an additional portable part to the base part;

transmitting the audio message from the additional portable part to the base part;

transmitting the audio broadcast command from the base part to the plurality of portable parts;

assigning a time slot other than the designated time slot to at least one portable unit before the transmitting of the audio broadcast from the base part such that the at least one of the portable parts so assigned does not broadcast audio messages during the designated time slot; and

dividing out more than three receiving time slots and more than three sending time slots for the ~~bas~~ base part, wherein the designated time slot is one of the more than three sending time slots and wherein the transmitting audio broadcast command is transmitted during at least two of the more than three sending time slots.

11. (currently amended) A ~~time division multiple access system, comprising:~~

~~a base part which generates a plurality of receiving time slots and a plurality of sending time slots, wherein each pair of a receiving time slot and a sending time slot forms a channel of a plurality of channels;~~

~~a plurality of portable parts, wherein each of the plurality of portable parts is assigned a channel; and~~

~~a broadcast indicator on at least one of the plurality of portable parts, wherein the portable parts.~~

method for providing an audio broadcast for a time division multiple access system with a base part and a plurality of portable parts, comprising:

placing the plurality of portable parts in a receive only mode;

generating an audio broadcast command at the base part by designating a single time slot;

transmitting the audio broadcast command from the base part to the plurality of portable parts;

transmitting a broadcast origination signal from an additional portable part to the base part followed by an audio message; and

dividing out more than three receiving time slots and more than three sending time slots for the base part, wherein the designated time slot is one of the more than three sending time slots and wherein the transmitting audio broadcast command is transmitted during at least two of the more than three sending time slots.

12. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising: time division multiple access system, as recited in claim 11, wherein the base part comprises: a central processing unit; and

programming instructions to cause the central processing unit to:

check for an indication of a broadcast;

if a broadcast is indicated:

choosing a designated time slot of the plurality of sending time slots and plurality of receiving time slots; and

sending out a broadcast command designating the designated time slot.

broadcasting an audio message from the base part during a single time slot of a time division;

receiving the audio message at the plurality of portable parts at least one of which is a hands free unit; and

automatically converting the audio message into sound by the plurality of portable parts.

13. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the placing the plurality of portable parts in a receive only mode comprises: time division multiple access system, as recited in claim 12, wherein each portable part comprises:

a central processing unit; and

~~programming instructions to cause the central processing unit to:~~
~~check for a broadcast command; and~~
~~upon receiving a broadcast command change a receiving time slot from a~~
~~receiving time slot of the portable part's channel to the designated time slot.~~
synchronizing the plurality of portable parts to the a single time slot and turning on
only speakers without turning on microphones of the plurality of portable parts.

Claims 14 – 15 canceled

16. (currently amended) The time division multiple access system, as recited in claim ~~11~~
~~15~~, wherein the base part and all of the portable parts have a broadcast indicator.

17. (Original) The time division multiple access system, as recited in claim 16, wherein the broadcast indicators are buttons.